

W sh
2 - signed in Amgen
MGH 739

?
17 January 1947

SUBJECT : Pope Pius XII's Changed Personal Policy
COUNTRY : Vatican
SOURCE : Kilkenny
SUBSOURCE : As stated
DATE OF INFORMATION: January 1947
PLACE : Rome, Italy
EVALUATION : B-2

0 Cradi, Zsolt

1. Subsource is (Count) ^{Giovanni} Joseph Della-Torre, Editor-in-Chief for the last 25 years of the Vatican's semi-official "Osservatore Romano". Reports office is asked herewith to give him a code name, in order to be able to protect him. Source knows Della-Torre for the last 12 years. Della-Torre is an opponent of Pope Pius XII. Policy: he is a very straightforward man, coming from the best Venetian aristocracy, liberal minded. He has a Belgian wife. Della-Torre is in constant contact with the Secretariat of State of the Vatican; with the Pope himself and with many members of the Diplomatic Corps attached to the Vatican. He is bound to source through a long and very warm friendship.

2. According to sub-source from the beginning of his access to the throne, Pius XII followed a very cautious policy in Italy and abroad, and tried not to commit himself in any way. Sub-source was summoned several times to the Secretary of State and to the Pope and advised not to make any remarks in the "Osservatore Romano" on attacks made by Statesmen or papers against the Vatican and the Pope. This system lasted until recently (October - November 1946) when sub-source was ordered not to ignore any attack which was worthwhile answering. Pius XII is very anxious to know about any article or declaration made in the Press of the World or by politicians of different nationalities.

3. The reason for this change is mostly (according to sub-source) due to the situation in Italy and to the handling of church problems by the Allies in Germany. Pius XII is very anxious to show that his prestige is unshaken in Italy. This is an important factor to judge his present policy. He wants to let everybody know that he is master in his own house. Beside that, the Pope is a little disappointed in the handling of the church in Germany, where the Allies did not give as much consideration to ecclesiasticals as was expected. It took too long to send a duly appointed, proper representative into Germany and then he had considerable difficulty.

262 11
DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES/METHODS/EXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

For this reason, the Pope likes the demonstrations addressed to him and he is convinced that by doing so he strenghtens, not only his own position, but his position of the Western World too. Pope Pius XII realizes that it would mean to lose influence in the whole world if his position in Italy and Germany were weakened. Many such demonstrations as were recently organized in Italy will follow in Europe because most of the Gentils were ordered to do so during their recent Congress in Rome.